

Message Text

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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 146546

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 146546 SENT ACTION BON N INFO ALL EUROPEAN
DIPLOMATIC POSTS USUN NEW YORK JUNE 23, 1977 REPEATED TO
YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 146546

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, GW

SUBJECT:PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS WITH FRG

1. SUMMARY. IO ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES AND SEVERAL
MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF REVIEWED MAJOR ISSUES FOR 32ND UNGA
ON JUNE 20 WITH FRG IO DIRECTOR REDIES. MAJOR ISSUES
DISCUSSED WERE SOUTHERN AFRICA, MIDDLE EAST, SPECIAL
SESSION ON DISARMAMENT, THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, HUMAN
RIGHTS, AND UN BUDGET. REDIES EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER
PROGRESS ACHIEVED THUS FAR ON NAMIBIA BY WESTERN CONTACT
GROUP AND COMMENTED THAT FRG DOES NOT ANTICIPATE MUCH OF
SUBSTANCE WILL RESULT FROM RESUMED SESSION OF 31ST UNGA.

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END SUMMARY.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF DISCUSSION FOLLOW:

A. REDIES AGREED WITH OVERALL US ASSESSMENT THAT EXTENT
OF CONTACT GROUP'S SUCCESS IN RESOLVING NAMIBIA INDEPENDENCE
ISSUE WILL INFLUENCE TONE OF 32ND UNGA. HE URGED WESTERN
STATES TO FOCUS PRIMARILY ON NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA. APAR-

THEID WILL BE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT AND CONTENTIOUS. HE SUGGESTED THAT CONTACT GROUP SHOULD ATTEND LAGOS APARTHEID CONFERENCE IN AUGUST TO MODERATE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS DEVELOPED ON APARTHEID.

B. MIDDLE EAST: IN RESPONSE TO IO REMARK THAT CONTINUED

MOMENTUM TOWARD MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT COULD ALSO LESSEN CONTENTIOUS ATMOSPHERE IN UNGA, REDIES URGED IMPRESSING ON THIRD WORLD THE IMPORTANCE OF MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT TO OVERALL WORLD PEACE. HE PERSONALLY SAW VALUE IN FORMING FACILITATIVE GROUP ON MIDDLE EAST SIMILAR TO NAMIBIAN CONTACT GROUP.

C. SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT (SSOD): ACDA REPRESENTATIVE FLOWERREE POINTED OUT DESIRABILITY OF WESTERN CONSENSUS ON POSITIONS AND INITIATIVES AT THE SSOD. AS EXAMPLES HE CITED MORE FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES INCLUDING MORE OPEN REPORTING OF MILITARY BUDGETS, AND GREATER CONTROL OVER CONVENTIONAL ARMS SALES. REDIES HOPED THAT MOST DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC DISARMAMENT ISSUES AT 32ND UNGA COULD BE DEFERRED TO THE SSOD. REDIES ADVOCATED "SHAKING UP" TACIT SOVIET-THIRD WORLD DISARMAMENT ALLIANCE BY DEMONSTRATING THAT WEST IS SOURCE OF REAL, AS OPPOSED TO PROPAGANDA, ARMS CONTROL MEASURES.

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D. NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE: FROM RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH UNGA PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE AND OTHER PROMINENT G-77 REPRESENTATIVES, REDIES CONCLUDED THAT NO COMMON POSITION EXISTS AMONG G-77 TOWARD RESUMED SESSION OF 31ST UNGA. G-77 SPLIT ON CIEC (ESPECIALLY OVER FAILURE TO STABILIZE OIL PRICES FOR POOREST COUNTRIES) AND LACK OF PREPARATION TIME FOR SESSION LED REDIES TO PREDICT RESUMED SESSION WILL BE PERFUNCTORY. HE SAID THAT FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY COULD SUPPORT BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF POOREST PEOPLE APPROACH AS PRIORITY ITEM FOR NEXT DEVELOPMENT DECADE, ALTHOUGH FRG FINANCE MINISTRY MIGHT SEE THE MATTER DIFFERENTLY. IN GENERAL TERMS, REDIES RECOMMENDED THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TAKE OFFENSIVE WHERE POSSIBLE WITH NEW PROPOSALS ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES.

E. HUMAN RIGHTS: IO REP OUTLINED US PLANS FOR PROPOSED UN SURVEY OF PRACTICES AND INCIDENTS OF TORTURE. REDIES CAUTIONED THAT, BASED ON FRG EXPERIENCE WITH HOSTAGE INITIATIVE IN 31ST UNGA, IT MAY BE TOO LATE FOR EFFECTIVE WESTERN ACTION ON TORTURE AT 32ND UNGA. MAYNES PROMISED CONTINUED STRONG US SUPPORT FOR FRG ON HOSTAGE ISSUE.

F. UN BUDGET: MAYNES OBSERVED THAT RAPIDLY RISING COSTS OF UN SYSTEM INCREASINGLY CONCERNED US BECAUSE LOSS OF CONFIDENCE IN ABILITY OF UN TO MANAGE FUNDS EFFECTIVELY AND TO CARRY OUT PROGRAMS EFFICIENTLY COULD ERODE BASE OF

POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR UN IN US. REDIES SUGGESTED APPROACH OF DETAILED TECHNICAL EXAMINATION OF BUDGETS TO DEMONSTRATE TO UN AGENCIES THE FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT CONCERNS OF MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS. CHRISTOPHER UNQUOTE VANCE

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